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## TREATY ROBS ASIA'S KUWAIT OF NATURAL RESOURCES: EXPERT

East Timorese leader-in-exile, Jose Ramos Horta, will launch a book by President of the University of Sydney's Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Dr Keith Suter, at a press conference this Monday.

Mr Horta is the Special Representative of the National Council of Maubere Resistance and spokesperson for imprisoned Timorese leader Xanana Gusmao.

The book, entitled *The East Timor Case and the International Court of Justice*, examines the recent international court case under which Portugal argued that Australia's negotiation of the 1989 Timor Gap Treaty was invalid.

Dr Suter said: "Australia's technical win in the International Court of Justice case was a hollow victory.

"With the oil resources of the Timor Gap, East Timor could easily have been the Kuwait of Asia. In negotiating the treaty with Indonesia we have robbed the people of East Timor of the natural resources which are rightfully theirs," he said.

**The press conference and book launch marks the sixth anniverary of the signing of the East Timor Gap Treaty. It will take place on Monday 11 December, beginning 12 pm on the 7th floor, CPSU House, 191 Thomas St, Haymarket.**

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